

PATENT APPLICATION
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q92407

Eiji AKIYAMA, et al.

Appln. No.: Not Yet Assigned

Confirmation No.: Not Yet Assigned

Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: January 10, 2006

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

For: FUEL CELL SYSTEM, METHOD OF OPERATING FUEL CELL, AND GAS
TREATMENT APPARATUS

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

1. Japanese Patent Publication No. 2003-132931, published May 9, 2003 (with English Abstract).
2. Japanese Patent Publication No. 2003-36879, published February 7, 2003 (with English Abstract).
3. Japanese Patent Publication No. 2003-223920, published August 8, 2003 (with English Abstract).

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
National Stage Entry of PCT/JP2004/009819

4. Japanese Patent Publication No. 2003-132924, published May 9, 2003 (with English Abstract).
5. Microfilm of the specification and drawings annexed to the request of Japanese Utility Model Application No. 156986/1975 (Laid-open No. 68933/1977), May 21, 1977.
6. Japanese Patent Publication No. 62-254366, published November 6, 1987 (with English Abstract).
7. Japanese Patent No. 38-14156, issued August 6, 1963 (with English Abstract).
8. Japanese Patent Publication No. 2003-100315, published April 4, 2003 (with English Abstract).
9. Japanese Patent Publication No. 2001-283892, published October 12, 2001 (with English Abstract).

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith, except for those listed in the International Search Report. It is assumed that copies of the cited references from the International Search Report will be supplied directly by the International Bureau, but if further copies are needed, the undersigned will undertake to provide them upon request.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date; (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under § 1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents Applicant submits the International Search Report which cites

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IAF23/44/214... PTP 10 JAN 2006

reference Nos. 3-9 and indicates the degree of relevance found by the Foreign Office. Applicant states that above reference Nos. 1 and 2 are discussed within the specification, beginning at page 3, line 5, and page 3, line 7, respectively.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.

Respectfully submitted,


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23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: January 10, 2006

Substitute for Form 1449 A & B/PTO <u>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE</u> <u>STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</u> <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				<i>Complete if Known</i>	
				Application Number	
				Confirmation Number	
				Filing Date	
				First Named Inventor	
				Art Unit	
Examiner Name		Not Yet Assigned			
Attorney Docket Number		Q92407			
Sheet	1	of	1		

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)		
		US			
		US			
		US			
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Translation ⁶
		Country Code ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)			
		JP	2003-132931	A	05-09-2003	YUASA CORP	Abstract
		JP	2003-36879	A	02-07-2003	CASIO COMPUT CO LTD	Abstract
		JP	2003-223920	A	08-08-2003	YUASA CORP	Abstract
		JP	2003-132924	A	05-09-2003	YUASA CORP	Abstract
		JP	68933-1977		05-21-1977	MATSUSHITA ELECTRIC IND	Abstract
		JP	62-254366	A	11-06-1987	FUJI ELECTRIC	Abstract
		JP	38-14156	B1	08-06-1963	MATSUSHITA ELECTRIC IND	Abstract
		JP	2003-100315	A	04-04-2003	HITACHI LTD	Abstract
		JP	2001-283892	A	10-12-2001	SAMSUNG ELECTRONICS CO	Abstract

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation ⁶

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov, MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.